

REMARKS

On April 22, 2004, the undersigned and Examiner Tuan Nguyen discussed the present case during a telephone call. The Examiner's courtesy during the course of the conversation was much appreciated. The above amendments to the claims were discussed, and Examiner indicated that he thought that the above amendments to the claims would render the claims such that they would not be rendered obvious in view of the references of record in this case.

Further, it should be noted that as expressed by the undersigned, during the course of the telephone call, the claims that were pending in the present case prior to the present amendment are believed to be allowable over the references in this case, and the basis for such a position is outlined in the Response to the June 5, 2003 Office Action, previously filed in this matter. The entirety of the analysis and argument set forth in this previous Response will not be repeated herein, but is incorporated herein by reference. The amendment of the claims herein is provided to expedite prosecution of the case, and without prejudice to the filing of a continuation application.

As amended above it appears that each of the pending independent claims are distinguishable over the references cited in the Dec. 23, 2003 Office Action.

Claim 1 recites a load which is disposed between the capacitor and the first electrode, and this load operates to dissipate energy transmitted through it as a result of a discharge in the gas discharge area. This load between the capacitor and the electrode is provided within a cooling unit. As discussed in the previous Response, the references in the December 23, 2003, Office Action are respectfully submitted to not include this configuration and operation. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 16 recites among other things, a peaking capacitor and a resistor in series, and the resistor is disposed between the capacitor and the first electrode, and the resistor is configured to dissipate energy transmitted through it as a result of a discharge in the gas discharge region, and a cooling unit is operates to the cool this resistor. It is respectfully, submitted that the operation and combination is not disclosed in or suggested by the references. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 21 recites among other things two peaking capacitors, and a resistor between the second peaking capacitor and the first electrode, and the resistor is configured to dissipate energy

transmitted through it as a result of a discharge in the gas discharge area, and a cooling unit is provided for the resistor. It is respectfully submitted that the operation and combination is not disclosed in or suggested by the references. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 39 recites among other things a peaking capacitor and a resistive component in series which are coupled with first discharge electrode such that the resistive component is between the peaking capacitor and first discharge electrode. This resistive component operates to dissipate energy transmitted through it as a result of a discharge in the main discharge electrodes, and a cooling unit is provided for cooling the resistive component. It is respectfully submitted that the operation and combination is not disclosed in or suggested by the references. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 46 recites a method which includes providing a load between a first electrode and the peaking capacitance, and dissipating energy of an electrical pulse which results from transmitting an electrical charge to the discharge electrode in load which coupled between the peaking capacitance and the first electrode. This claim also provides for cooling the load which dissipates the energy. It is respectfully submitted that the operation and combination is not disclosed in or suggested by the references. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 46 and its dependent claims are allowable.

Claim 52 recites a system which includes a load and a capacitor in series and the load and capacitor are coupled between the first electrode and ground, and the load is disposed between the capacitor and ground. The load operates to dissipate streamers generated by a glow discharge of the laser tube and cooling apparatus is provided which cools the load. It is respectfully submitted that the operation and combination is not disclosed in or suggested by the references. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 52 and its dependent claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is believed that all claims now present in this application are patentably distinguishable over the references. Therefore, reconsideration is requested, and it is requested that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

STALLMAN & POLLOCK LLP

Dated: May 7, 2004

By: 

Brian J. Keating
Reg. No. 39,520

Attorneys for Applicant(s)